What is Claimed is:[16]

1. An electronic commerce system wherein a customer reserves at least one token from an issuer which token is stored in the customer's portable radio communication device, the customer activates the token so that it can be used for buying goods or services from a vendor, the customer selects between spending the token with the vendor, or delegating the token to a delegate via the delegate's radio communication device such that the delegate can spend the token with the vendor.

2. A system according to claim 1 wherein the vendor presents a spent token to the Issuer who redeems the token for monetary value.

3. A system according to claim 1 or claim 2 wherein said at least one token comprises a PreToken given by,

PreToken = S(Rp, Auth, Ss)

wherein S indicates an executable event in which Rp represents the Recipient, Ss represents the Sender and Auth is indicative of the goods/service.

4. A system according to claim 3 wherein said PreToken may be grouped to provide a GroupToken given by,

GroupToken = sequence of (PreToken).

5. A system according to claim 3 or claim 4 wherein said PreToken or GroupToken may be assigned to provide a DelegatedToken given by,

DelegatedToken = S(PreToken/GroupToken, Dp, Cs),

wherein S indicates an executable event in which a PreToken or GroupToken is transferred from a Customer (Cs) to a Delegate (Dp).

6. A system according to claim 3, claim 4 or claim 5 wherein said PreToken, GroupToken or DelegatedToken is spent with a Vendor to provide a SpentToken or a SpentDelegatedToken given by,

    SpentToken = S(PreToken/GroupToken, Mp, Cs),

    wherein S indicates an executable event in which a PreToken or GroupToken is spent by a Customer (Cs) with a Vendor (Mp), and

    SpentDelegatedToken = S(DelegatedToken, Mp, Ds),

    wherein S indicates an executable event in with a DelegatedToken is spent by a Delegate (Ds) with a Vendor (Mp).

7. A system according to claim 6 wherein said vendor redeems said SpentToken or SpentDelegatedToken with the Issuer to result in a RedeemedToken given by,

    RedeemedToken = S(SpentToken/SpentDelegatedToken, Ms),

    wherein S indicates an executable event in which a SpentToken or SpentDelegatedToken is redeemed by a Vendor (Ms).

8. A method for electronic commerce comprising

    a customer reserving at least one token from an issuer and storing said token in the customer's portable radio communication device,

    the customer selecting between spending the token with the vendor, or delegating the token to a delegate by transferring said token to the delegate's portable radio communication device for storage therein.